

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2003 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS
MARCH 11, 2003

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary group of men and women in Northern Virginia. Several members of the Fairfax County Police Department were honored at the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce's 25th Annual Valor Awards. Each year, the Chamber recognizes individuals who have courageously demonstrated selfless dedication to public safety. These outstanding men and women have played an intricate role in building a better community. This hard work and determination has earned several members of the Fairfax County Police Department the highest honor that Fairfax County bestows upon its public safety officials—The Valor Award.

There are several Valor Awards that a public safety officer can be given, Lifesaving Award, a Certificate of Valor, or a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Medal of Valor. During the 25th Annual Awards Ceremony, 88 men and women from the Office of the Sheriff, Fire and Rescue Department, and Police Department received one of the aforementioned honors for their bravery and heroism.

It is with great honor that I enter into the RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2003 Valor Award in the Fairfax County Police Department. Receiving the *Lifesaving Award*: Public Service Communicator III Lorraine Fells-Danzer, Lieutenant Amy Lubas, Police Officer First Class Michael Grinnan, Police Officer First Class Jason Riechel, Police Officer First Class Andrew Pytko, Lieutenant Erin Schaible, Police Officer First Class Richard Theal; *Certificate of Valor*: Police Officer First Class Dale Clark, Police Officer First Class John Hartle, Officer Lee Redenbo, Master Police Officer John Flinn, Master Police Officer Peter Masood, Police Officer Steve Mihelarakis, Sergeant Robin Davis, Officer Michael Comer, Second Lieutenant Thomas Vaclavicek, Master Police Officer John Brocco, Lieutenant Mark Rogers, Second Lieutenant John Naylor, Police Officer First Class Peter Kwak, Police Officer First Class Charles Wolfert, Police Officer First Class Mike Kazlk, Officer Angela Griffiths, Officer Kyle Kunstel, Officer Daniel Lauta, PSCA III Scott Pierpoint, PSCA I Maile Jones; *Silver Medal of Valor*: Lieutenant Timothy Hoover, Second Lieutenant Christopher Cochran, Sergeant Brian Hall, Master Police Officer Michael Twomey, Police Officer First Class Ron Estrella, Sergeant Kevin Andariese, Police Officer First Class Richard Mattison, Police Officer First Class Donald Kline, Police Officer First Class Mark Dale, Police Officer First Class Edward Warren, Police Officer First Class Chad Mahoney, Police Officer First Class Steven Carroll, Po-

lice Officer First Class Donnacha Fay, Police Officer First Class Tom Hulse IV, Officer Melissa Jones, Officer Jonathan Bobel, Master Police Officer John Bracco, Police Officer First Class Bradford Avery; *Bronze Medal of Valor*: Officer Joseph Wallace, Police Officer First Class Katherin Luppino, Police Officer First Class Kin Vanderveld, Sergeant James Cox, Lieutenant Tor Bennett, Police Officer First Class Michael Gibbons, Police Officer First Class Holly Hinkle.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the men and women who serve the Fairfax County Police Department. The events of September 11th served as a reminder of the sacrifices our emergency service workers make for us every day. Their constant efforts on behalf of Fairfax County citizens are paramount to preserving security, law and order throughout our neighborhoods, and their individual and collective acts of heroism deserve our highest praise. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this group of extraordinary citizens.

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA
ON TIBETAN UPRISING DAY

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I request the attached copy of the annual statement of His Holiness the Dalai Lama marking March 10, 2003 as the 44th anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising of 1959 be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

On March 10, 1959, the people of the Tibetan capitol of Lhasa surrounded the summer home of the Dalai Lama in a brave effort to protect him from the Peoples' Liberation Army's guns that were trained on his compound from across the river. These heroic Tibetans refused to leave even after the Chinese artillery fire began falling. The Dalai Lama eventually fled into exile in a futile effort to protect them; thousands died during the Chinese assault on the city, and thousands more died as the PLA moved to suppress a nationwide uprising against their increasingly repressive occupation of Tibet.

Under the leadership of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tibetan people inside and outside Tibet continue their non-violent struggle to preserve their unique cultural, linguistic and religious heritage. I am proud that the U.S. Congress is a beacon of support for the Tibetan struggle. I hope that His Holiness' statement will inspire all of us to re-double our efforts in support of a peaceful resolution to this tragic situation. As the lead sponsor of the Tibetan Policy Act, I was pleased to see the Congress come together last year in support of a dynamic U.S. policy on Tibet. This year, as we implement this landmark legislation, we must continue our historic support for a movement that embodies the values of our nation and

our time: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from tyranny, equality, liberty, self-determination, and democratic self-government.

MARCH 10TH STATEMENT

Our sincere greetings to our fellow Tibetans in Tibet and in exile and to our friends and supporters all over the world on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the Tibetan People's Uprising of 1959. While there were positive developments on the overall issue of Tibet, we remain concerned about the continuing marginalization of Tibetans in their own country and Chinese actions on the human rights and religious freedom of the Tibetan people in the past year.

The 16th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party ushered a new era in China by smoothly transferring the leadership from the third to the fourth generation. This is a sign of political maturity and adaptability. The reforms, initiated by Deng Xiaoping and continued under President Jiang Zemin, have brought about great changes in China, especially in the fields of economy, trade and in the conduct of international relations. I welcome this development since I have always drawn attention to the need to bring China into the mainstream of the world community and have spoken against any idea of isolating and containing China. Unfortunately, in sharp contrast to these positive aspects, such a pragmatic and flexible approach has been lacking when it comes to upholding the basic civil and political rights and freedoms of its citizens, especially with regard to those of the so-called minorities within the People's Republic of China.

We were encouraged by the release of several Tibetan and Chinese political prisoners of conscience during the past year. Among them Tibetan prisoners such as Takna Jigme Sangpo and Ani Ngawang Sangdrol who spent years in prison solely for daring to express their views on Chinese policies in Tibet and in particular on Tibetan history and who represent the courage and determination of the Tibetan people inside Tibet.

I was pleased that the Chinese government made it possible for my envoys to visit Beijing to re-establish direct contact with the Chinese leadership and to also visit Tibet to interact with the leading local Tibetan officials. The visit of my envoys last September to Beijing provided the opportunities to explain to the Chinese leadership our views on the issue of Tibet. I was encouraged that the exchanges of views were friendly and meaningful.

I had instructed my envoys to make every effort to pursue a course of dialogue with the leadership in Beijing and to seize every opportunity to dispel existing misunderstandings and misconceptions in Beijing about our views and positions. This is the only sensible, intelligent and human way to resolve differences and establish understanding. It will not be an easy task nor can it be accomplished within a short period of time. However, it provides the Tibetan and Chinese peoples a unique and crucial opportunity to put behind them decades of bitterness, distrust and resentment and to form a new relationship based on equality, friendship and mutual benefit.

Successive Chinese leaders have acknowledged and promised to respect with understanding and tolerance Tibet's distinct culture, history and identity. In reality, whenever Tibetans demonstrate allegiance and

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